

# THE INDEPENDENT: OSKALOOSA, KANSAS, AUGUST 8, 1860.

## The Independent.

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OSKALOOSA, KANSAS.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 8, 1860.

### DEVELOPMENT.

It is the true policy of every country, and especially of a new one to develop its resources of all kinds, and as fast as possible, without involving its government and people in debt beyond the reasonable and available means of payment.

Kansas is wealthy in natural resources. Her broad prairies and rich soil are capable of maintaining a population of almost fabulous numbers, and being situated almost in the geographical center of the mighty central basin or valley between two principle ranges of mountains in the United States, its position must ever give it prominence and importance. It is the key to public domain of the nation, and as such was so fiercely contended for by the Free and Slave powers. It becomes a matter of deep interest, therefore, not only to her own citizens but to the entire Union, that she should be properly developed.

But this development is not the work of a day, nor can it be fully accomplished by the present population of the territory; and yet the initial steps must be taken by those who now have her destiny in their hands.

The tribulations through which Kansas has passed, and which baptized her soil in blood, though they were very sore and grievous, have not been without their beneficial results, deplorable as they were. Because of them the eyes of the entire nation, and, to some extent, of the civilized world, have been directed towards her; however, though but in the infancy of existence as regards time, she is known better than any other territory belonging to the government.

This is no small matter; it will, undoubtedly, give a direction to emigration for years to come, and lead the foot-steps of thousands to her fertile plains, whose destination would otherwise be uncertain, and often turned elsewhere.

This is no small advantage; but it is only one of numbers which accrue to Kansas from her trials. Besides numbers, the circumstances attending her settlement have given character to her population. Men went to settle on her soil because a great principle actuated them; and notwithstanding the "wars" brought a large number of most despicable fellows from all quarters, who can only be a curse at home or abroad, yet in the end most of these have been vomited out and driven away, and a population of energy, refinement and intelligence, unprecedented in a territory so young, is at this day permanently located in Kansas.

The first emigrants to a new country have much to do with its future character; they stamp the first impression upon it, and if it is a bad one, time has to obliterate before a different one can be made; and this is a very difficult matter to accomplish. We think it is beyond all dispute, that Kansas has a large majority of about the right kind of citizenship.

What then? Development of the resources of the territory. No idleness, no indifference. Every day's work and every dollar invested in improvements, as public highways, schools, churches, colleges — being careful not to overdo the latter — and all similar works, will repay a hundred-fold.

It is true the times are hard, and just now it may be about as much as most of the inhabitants can do to take care of themselves; but a few days in the year devoted to labor on roads or other improvements would hardly be felt, and in the end will bring back a rich revenue.

Besides, times are getting better. Already in the eastern cities money is plenty and cheap, and in about six months from this time the tide of prosperity will begin to throw its waves over the west. Of course Kansas will share in the general good. Crops throughout the country on the whole, have never been better, if as good. In Ohio alone, it is estimated that the wheat crop is five millions of bushels greater than in any previous year; and the same may be said, in proportion, of other states. Corn never was better at this season of the year; it is good everywhere, on lowland and upland; and all other grains are alike good. Provisions and breadstuffs must, therefore, be abundant and comparatively cheap.

We direct particular attention to the card of J. L. SPEER which you will find among the new advertisements. The Judge has had several years' experience in the practice of law, and is one of the ablest advocates in the interior.

Give him a call, you who have suits in litigation.

These indications are most fortunate and favorable for Kansas. Only let the whole country feel the reviving influence of universal prosperity once more, and capital, enterprise and pop-

ulation will as certainly find their way into our midst as that Kansas is located in the heart of the nation.

And the present inhabitants of the territory must be the John the Baptist, crying in the wilderness. "Prepare the way." Ay, they must be more than this; for not only must they bear, but actually do the work of preparation.

Will they do it? Certainly. The men who can conquer a country can develop it, if their energies are turned in the right direction. There is now no place for drones in the hive. If any such have found a place, drive them out. Men are wanted; men who are not too good nor too lazy to work. We need brain-labor and hand-labor; the energies of body and mind called into action, and the "shoulder put to the wheel." Idlers can find a place elsewhere, we have no use for them in Kansas. There is too much to be done here for loafers to live off of the labor of the industrious. Put out the dead weights — let them sink or make them swim. Onward! is the watchword; Labor the talisman.

As a general thing improvements will be more easily made in Kansas than other new countries, because there are fewer natural impediments to overcome, so far as the face of the country is concerned; fewer hills to cut down and a less number of marshes to fill up or bridge over. This will allow of the construction of roads of all kinds with rapidity and small expense; and good roads are the first general need of a new country.

With a judicious direction of means, and a proper spirit of enterprise, on the part of her people, Kansas will be a young giant in ten years; but if there is lack of spirit and sluggishness manifested, then this growth will be retarded very greatly.

Good schools and good roads are essentials — the rest can be done without for a time; but the faster all things are developed the better. Let us work for ourselves, for our state, for the general well fare, and the reward will be sure, abundant and of the most substantial character.

### CEMETERY.

We are greatly pleased to see that the citizens of this place are beginning to feel the need of a respectable place in which to bury the dead. The graveyard used at present is objectionable in several particulars. The ground is not well located, and is thickly overgrown with oak grubs and underbrush, and a heavy forest of trees, rendering it difficult to dig graves, and giving to it an appearance ill becoming the resting place of departed friends. Without a fence, it is open to cattle, hogs and wild beasts, so that tomb stones are liable to be torn down and broken, the graves so trodden as to leave no trace of where they were, or to be dug open by ravaging beasts. As it is, a year or two afterwards it is with difficulty that persons can designate the place where they have laid their friends, particularly when the graves are small.

Another very serious objection to the present location of the place of burial is the fact that it is too near to town. Dwelling houses have already been built within a few rods of it, and it will be but a few years until it will be included within the town, and the bodies buried there will have to be disinterred and removed.

It would be a good deed, for which their children's children would call them blessed, if the corporate authorities would purchase, about two miles from town, suitable grounds for a cemetery, (which should descend to their successors in office forever,) fence it well, and lay it off in lots for the use of families and friends. The proceeds of the sale of these lots would soon amount to enough to pay for the surveying, fencing and ornamenting the grounds, and would afford a tranquil and pleasant place to inter the remains of the "loved and lost."

We hope the citizens of Oskaloosa will agitate this subject until measures are taken to secure and beautify cemetery grounds some where from one to two miles out of town, that would be easy of access, and in such a direction that it may never be within the borders of the village.

The election for State officers came off in Missouri on Monday, the 6th inst. We had hoped to give our readers some news from it to-day, but our daily exchanges up to and including the evening of the 7th, are barren of election news, except that there was a fight in Platte City, in which one of the parties got the top of his head knocked off with a club.

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## General News.

From the Lawrence Republican.  
Attempted Murder in Anderson Co.  
The Criminal Court over, and turned loose by the Jailor.

Latest from Pike's Peak.  
DENVER CITY, July 23.  
A shooting affray occurred in California Gulch last week, and resulted in the death of a man named Smith, from Benton County, Arkansas, while in pursuit of his wife, who had run away with a man named Curtis, from the same place. Smith shot at Curtis, missing him, and wounding his wife. Curtis returned the fire, killing Smith instantly.

Pat Devlin, notorious in the Fort Scott difficulties in Eastern Kansas and Jas. Lafferty had a shooting affair in Colorado City last Saturday, in which Dorell received six balls from Lafferty's pistol. The latter was tried by a people's court, and a verdict of justifiable was rendered.

Last evening an auctioneer named M. Hadley who has a wife and two children in Galesburg, Ill., was accidentally shot and killed by a barkeeper named Wm. Bates, formerly of Chicago, but recently from Rock Island. Bates is in custody.

Jas. Gordon, formerly from Boston, but lately from Nebraska, who has hitherto enjoyed the reputation of a peaceable man, shot a barkeeper one night last week while on a spree, seriously wounding him in the leg. On Friday evening he threatened to shoot several persons, and was only prevented from doing so by the interference of bystanders. Later in the night he attacked a young German in a saloon, and after mauling him, blew his brains out.

Next morning a meeting of the citizens was called, and nearly \$1,000 raised, and parties sent out in all directions in pursuit of Gordon, who was discovered entrenched with a party of friends in Fort Lupton, 25 miles down the Platte. He finally made his escape, after having his horse shot, and being himself wounded.

A. J. Williams, President of the Denver City Town Co., and Dr. Kennedy, of this city, were arrested at Fort Lupton, and are under arrest for assisting Gordon to escape. They were old friends of Gordon, and say they were sent for to meet him there and take charge of his papers; as he expected to be shot or hung.

One party in looking for Gordon, came upon another party, who, feeling guilty for the river. Jessie Ogle escaped by swimming the river. Frank Mulligan, in attempting the same, was drowned. Samuel K. Dunn was taken prisoner, with three mules and some arms. Ogle and Mulligan were from Wisconsin, and Dunn from Champaign county, Ill.

Dunn says the mules were stolen, as the only means by which they could get back to the States.

There is a vigilance committee organized in this city, composed of the best and most law-abiding citizens, who are bound by oath to sustain each other in retarding out and bringing to punishment the murderers and thieves by whom this country is overrun.

Mining news is unimportant. Weather warm and showery.

### Territorial Items.

From Washington County we hear news of an unhappy nature. A lead has long existed between the Otoe and Cheyenne Indians in the neighborhood of the Republican Fork, which has given great uneasiness to the settlers, and caused many of them to abandon their claims. Last week the faction met and a collision took place. The fight was earnest and lasted part of a day and night, but neither proved victorious.

During the night the Sioux came upon the belligerents and "cleaned out" both parties, and closed the matter up by stealing a large amount of stock from the white settlers. After the Indians left the people there will have little left and must suffer for the mere necessities of life.

James & Jones Coskun, formerly of Ohio, and Thomas Ross of Indiana, Marcus Staley escaped, although injured to some extent. All four were lying in a row when the lightning struck the building.

Leavenworth Democrat.

The Neosho Valley Register gives an account of a great hurricane which visited Coffey county, last Friday afternoon. Six buildings were blown down or seriously injured in Burlington. A Leroy the storm was equally severe, the roof of a dwelling house, blowing down fence &c. The dwelling of Mr. Hough, near Leroy, was torn to pieces, and his wife severely injured. During the night the Sioux came upon the belligerents and "cleaned out" both parties, and closed the matter up by stealing a large amount of stock from the white settlers. After the Indians left the people there will have little left and must suffer for the mere necessities of life.

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